



HR1252

LRB099 21844 MST 48697 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Robert  
4 Brent of Aurora, who passed away on May 5, 2016; and

5           WHEREAS, Robert Brent was born in Thackeray on February 20,  
6 1939; he moved to Aurora in 1946 and graduated from East Aurora  
7 High School in 1957; he earned his bachelor's degree from  
8 LaSalle Extension University of Chicago; and

9           WHEREAS, Robert Brent had a 28-year career with the Aurora  
10 Police Department, the last 12 as Chief; he was the City of  
11 Aurora's 21st Chief of Police, and one of the youngest police  
12 chiefs in the United States to lead a department in a city the  
13 size of Aurora; he was hired in 1961, promoted to Sergeant in  
14 1968, to Lieutenant in 1971, and to Captain in 1974; in 1966,  
15 while he was still an officer, he was instrumental in the  
16 police department's complete restructuring; as Chief, he  
17 organized the first Special Response (SWAT) Team, oversaw  
18 implementation of 911 service and computer-aided dispatch in  
19 the city, planned and implemented the department's first cadet  
20 program, and introduced several community initiatives  
21 including Crime Stoppers and Neighborhood Watch; and

22           WHEREAS, Robert Brent retired on September 1, 1989, but

1 continued to volunteer with many civic organizations; he also  
2 worked as public relations director at Aurora's Alarm Detection  
3 Systems for 15 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Robert Brent was especially proud of his 44-year  
5 involvement with the Kiwanis Club of Aurora, where he had been  
6 club President and Kiwanian of the Year; he was responsible for  
7 the creation of Aurora's Golden Kiwanis Club and volunteered as  
8 a Scout leader for many years; he was a lifetime member of the  
9 Juvenile Protective Association and was active in the Illinois  
10 and International Association of Chiefs of Police; he was also  
11 involved in the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley,  
12 the former Mercy Center Foundation Board, and many other civic  
13 and church clubs; and

14 WHEREAS, Robert Brent organized monthly Wednesday night  
15 police retiree dinners at the old Pat's Pub in Aurora's West  
16 Town Plaza; and

17 WHEREAS, Robert Brent is survived by his wife of 55 years,  
18 Janice; his son, Mark Brent, and his wife, Kristen; his  
19 daughter, Ann Marie Pawlisz, and her husband, Joseph; his seven  
20 grandchildren; his sister, Beverly Williams; his brother, Gary  
21 Brent; his brother-in-law, Richard Olson; and other relatives  
22 and friends; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
3           mourn the passing of Robert Brent, and extend our sincere  
4           condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved  
5           him; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7           presented to the family of Robert Brent as an expression of our  
8           deepest sympathy.